

# **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH BENNINGTON, VERMONT**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2007**



**179<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BUSINESS  
MEETING HELD  
January 27, 2008**

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**NOTE: This is a website version of the physical copy on file at the First Baptist office.**

# **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH BENNINGTON, VERMONT**

## **CHURCH COVENANT**

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of our Heavenly Father, to associate ourselves with this church in its united effort to promote God's will on earth, we therefore solemnly enter into agreement with one another and with the Lord Jesus Christ.

That we will strive to live a new and holy life, walking together in love as disciples of Jesus who said, "This is my commandment to you, to love one another as I have loved you... by this shall all men know that you are my disciples."

That we will seek to emulate the teachings of the New Testament; laying aside falsehood and speaking the truth. We will be kind one to another, that we may live as children of light, standing firm as men and women of mature character and of clear convictions as to everything which is God's will.

That we will sustain this church in its worship, teaching and missionary interests home and abroad by our regular attendance at its services; and will contribute, as God prospers us, to meet various needs of the Kingdom; knowing that this is the only way we can keep the church strong and its work progressive.

That we will aim to maintain private family devotion, create a Christian atmosphere within our homes, encourage cheerfulness, a right appreciation of prayer, and a balance of Christian life.

That we pledge ourselves to maintain individual liberty of conscience to strive with all Christ's followers in a courageous effort to bring our social relations into harmony with all society and government, to promote peace, and a better understanding among mankind.

That should we move from this community we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
179th ANNUAL MEETING  
AGENDA  
JANUARY 27,2008  
10:45 A.M.**

The First Baptist Church of Bennington, VT will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008 beginning at 10:45 am in Colgate Hall for the following purposes:

1. OPENING REMARKS
  
2. CALL TO ORDER OF THE CORPORATE BODY  
Ratification of the actions of the Board of Trustees
  
3. CALL TO ORDER OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
  - A. 2007 in review
    - Approval of minutes of the January 2007 Annual Meeting
    - Treasurer's Report
    - Financial secretary's report
    - Endowment update
    - Affirming the 2007 year of ministry
  - B. 2008 Business
    - To hear and act upon the 2008 budget report
    - To hear and act upon the nominating committee report
    - To transact any other business that may properly come before this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Hattie Hustler  
Church Clerk

# *178<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Minutes*

## **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Bennington, VT 05201**

**January 28, 2007**

Moderator, Florence Smith, called the annual meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. Jerrod Huguenot opened the meeting with prayer, followed by the singing of the Doxology. The members read the church covenant together.

The moderator called to order a meeting of the corporate body. Allyn Lindsey made a motion to accept the actions of the trustees. Frances Hunt seconded the motion and it was so voted.

The regular meeting of the church was then called to order. The motion to accept the minutes of the 2006 annual meeting was made by Cindy Watson and seconded by Byron Spafford. The motion was passed.

Jerrod made several comments at that point. He spoke of the continued commitment of the interim transition team. He also spoke of the need to expand our Christian Education program to reach those who are past age ten. He mentioned the Bible Study that was well attended in the fall to study the Gospel of Mark, and the study of Luke, which is about to start. He spoke of the need to continue to work for good stewardship, missions, etc. He made the suggestion that at times boards might meet together to be more aware of how their duties mesh and integrate. He also told the group that our church has received \$1,000 for further work in transition-our mission dollars at work! He spoke last about the upcoming American Baptist Biennial Convention, which will be held in Washington, D.C. this summer. He will be attending as a member of the national board, and expressed the hope that some church members will also attend.

The treasurer's report was the next order of business. Carolyn Peckham made the motion to accept, seconded by Hazel Candib and was voted.

The church budget for the year 2007 was presented. Allyn Lindsey made the motion to accept, seconded by Allyn Lindsey, and so voted.

The nominating committee's report was presented, with thanks to all those who have accepted positions. Chris Gaines made the motion to accept, seconded by Betty Cross and so carried.

In other business, thanks were expressed to all those who provided delicious repasts for the after church fellowship hours.

Other business: The clerk was directed to send letters of thanks to the radio station, WBTN, The Banner, and CAT TV for the publicity they donate to the church. Also it was requested that a letter of thanks be sent to Robert Greene's Oil Company for the care he takes of our boilers. He does not charge labor on them, only for necessary parts.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Marry Harrington, Church Clerk

## **PASTOR'S REPORT 2007**

The year 2007 marked the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the congregation's founding, and throughout the year, we celebrated "turning a 180" as well as turning 180. Looking back at a significant year in the life of First Baptist, I am astonished at the good work carried out in the past twelve months. Great challenges were accepted this year by our congregation that were somewhat daunting, in some cases, overdue, and overall, marked improvements to our congregation's life. Remarkable things happened this year, and we should celebrate 2007 as a very good year to recount so that future generations can look back at what we did long after these documents have yellowed with age (or more likely, digitized using technology that is cutting edge today and rather quaint and archaic tomorrow).

As the intentional interim minister, I affirm that First Baptist is learning that change is a companionable presence along the way. Change can be perceived often as a threat, especially in organizations engrained with habits and steeped in tradition, but I believe we are looking more intentionally at change as a reality that we are willing to embrace. Here are some reflections about what I affirm about 2007's year in review along with challenges ahead in 2008:

### **WRESTLING WITH OUR IDENTITY**

For many years, the decline of First Baptist numerically has meant that the missional focus of the church has gone by the wayside as well. While we have more work ahead of us, I affirm that we are starting to ask questions less myopic and seek answers more perceptive about how our congregation relates to a community with unique socio-economic challenges. In 2007, we pondered our ministry context more intentionally than ever before. Opportunities for the congregation to think together about these issues were offered by the Rev. Dr. Ronald Carlson, Missional Church strategist for the Board of National Ministries (ABC/USA), who conducted two weekend seminars for our congregation. Our inaugural adult Sunday school focused on the Children in Poverty Initiative of our denomination, facilitated by Lisa Flynn and Darcy Oakes, who received congregational funding to attend a national conference on the CIP Initiative. Good questions, reality checks about what our community needs are really like, and much pondering together will I trust bring a more incisive vision of our ministry.

The challenge for 2008 is to continue the work of redefining our identity and realigning our congregation's ministry to fit the changing needs of our community. In 2008, we need to guard against settling for "maintenance" (just repeating what we already know and do in our ministry and mission) and embrace questions and answers more in tune with the missional challenges given by Dr. Carlson. The missional church is "a community of faith which directs its ministry primarily outward toward the context in which it is located and to the broader world beyond". I would say this is a good benchmark definition for First Baptist to aspire to achieve as it seeks a brighter, stronger, and more vital future as a congregation.

### **BEING AN ASSET TO THE COMMUNITY**

At the outset of its transitional period (Fall 2005), the congregation identified a strong desire to be "in" the community and to raise its profile. I have worked diligently to get involved with community life through civic life (singing in the Bennington County Choral Society and attending community events), economic development (serving on the board of the Better Bennington Corporation), and social concerns (partnering with other Interfaith Council clergy to keep the "faith communities" aware and involved in critical issues within the community). Best of all, we are "giving" a lot to the community through the upcoming Community Conflict Transformation workshop (Feb. 7-8, 2008), a non-sectarian workshop hosted by First Baptist and underwritten through our partnership with National Ministries (ABC/USA). Our mission budget is giving more to Bennington area organizations, especially the Food & Fuel Fund administered by the Interfaith Council, while continuing to grow in our support of denominational mission support.

The building now hums with life, gleaming with various improvements, including new flooring (and a new floor buffer to keep it so). In 2007, we welcomed the community more intentionally than before to partner with us in using the building as sacred space as well as a place for the social, civic, and non-profit sectors of town to find a welcome location on Main Street suited for a variety of meetings and events. The Bennington Free Public Library's annual sale, a weekend of performances by the Bennington County Choral Society, year long training sessions for employees of the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center, and "round table discussions" facilitated by the Better Bennington Corporation are great examples of "new" partnerships forged this past year.

The challenge for 2008 is to continue the work of community involvement and engagement. Our building is an asset, and I am hopeful that through diligent work by staff and the board of trustees, a business plan will emerge that will continue assuring more building usage, community visibility, and assuring a new revenue stream to augment our current congregational giving and protect the long-term health of our endowed funds. It is also my hope that we can begin engaging the average congregant more in the mission of the church. As the forthcoming denominational mission emphasis will remind, American Baptists, like all Christians, are called to be "the hands and feet of Christ in the world". I believe we are well on the way to a new level of community involvement that is more than mere "civic pride". Indeed, we might be on the cusp of a new day for mission, if we can allow our sails to catch the winds of the Spirit!

### CRAFTING A LIFE TOGETHER

I am pleased that First Baptist's lay leadership is in the process of reviewing its internal practices around governance, leadership, and personnel management. In 2008, we will see hopefully a personnel manual take shape that will allow better oversight, evaluation, and compensation to take place with our employees. The weekend following annual meeting will feature (snow willing) a day given over to engaging our church leadership about key issues to improve our congregation's governance, internal processes, and enhance our communication. I am grateful to Greg Lewis, moderator, for his affirmation of these critical next steps, often long overdue and much neglected in congregations, especially those in unique times of transition.

I am mindful that we are still "a small church" size congregation, even after raising our attendance a bit in the past two years of my tenure. We have reached a "tipping point" for our congregation. Either we choose to expend the energy and tackle the challenges of becoming a larger congregation, or we stay with what we know. It is a daunting challenge to think of First Baptist as 100 persons each Sunday. The last time that First Baptist reported an average worship attendance of 80 or more was 1988. To reverse the last twenty years is necessarily a change in our understandings of congregational life. We have to learn (or relearn) welcoming the stranger, being inclusive, and doing what I have heard called "living abundantly". Pot lucks, time for play, offering space for grace, tending one another, time for prayer—these are all the little things that help folks know that they are meant to be together. I am hopeful that we can share our story as a people of faith with increasingly more people. The only way to be a growing church is to tend the little plot of earth where God has planted this people called First Baptist. God has provided us with a great facility, a great endowment, and a great host of opportunities for impacting the lives of this community. The greatest gifts, however, are the active, intentional members of this congregation who live out their baptismal calling as disciples of Christ in the midst of a hurting and wounded world.

### NOTES OF GRATITUDE

As I close, let me extend a word of thanks for the staff of the congregation, from our senior staff (John Harwood, sexton, Donna Sprague, office administrator) to our newest staff (Darcy Oakes, director of Christian Education, the Rev. Stephen JC Williams, director of music, and Cindy Watson, building coordinator and rental manager). The year 2007 brought many changes, challenges, and conundrums, and their diligence and dedication cannot go without due praise. We have a remarkable group of staff to thank for their service this year.

I also offer thanksgiving for the members of the boards and committees and our church officers. A simple comparison of several preceding years of annual reports demonstrated some long-term difficulties filling in spots on committees or folks feeling like they would never get to step out of long-held offices. We have been blessed this year by many able and earnest congregants giving their time to make the church life hum.

May 2008 bring about many faithful and missional endeavors in the life of First Baptist!

Grace and Peace,

The Rev. Jerrod H. Huguenot, Intentional Interim Minister

## **ADDENDUM**

I wish to note that throughout the year, I traveled to a variety of denominational events and consultations. I spent eighteen days this past summer traveling to General Board meetings and the 2007 ABC/USA Biennial in Washington, DC, and then to Accra, Ghana, to attend the 2007 Congress of the Baptist World Alliance. In November 2007, Greg Lewis and I attended a weekend consultation on church growth and missional churches sponsored by National Ministries. In November, I attended my final meeting (after six years of service) of denominational board meetings in Savannah, GA. (At this final meeting, I was pleased to see a new board policy I authored pass unanimously. This policy calls upon American Baptists to share the call to ministry more intentionally with our youth and young adults. After six years of dealing with denominational "turf wars" of varied circumstance, I was glad to see something pass unanimously, one of the few times I can recollect a roomful of Baptists agreeing so amicably about an issue that matters at the end of the day!) I am most grateful for First Baptist allowing me to participate in denominational meetings as part of my duties as minister. I look forward to 2008 being a less globetrotting year!

I am grateful to note that in addition to the line items accorded to me by First Baptist for continuing education, I received funding from the ABC V/NH Silver Bean Fund, an endowed fund for the education and professional development of clergy serving ABC/USA churches in Vermont and New Hampshire. The Board of National Ministries, the Board of International Ministries, and the Office of the General Secretary, and the ABCV/NH region pooled resources together to help underwrite the significant travel and conference costs of attending the BWA meeting in Ghana. The funding provided by the regional and national denominational offices is made possible in part by all of our local congregations working together and providing mission support. The opportunity to learn about our Baptist tradition in a global context (especially while in western Africa) was an enriching and invaluable opportunity!

## **PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

The pastoral relations committee's function is to support the pastor, and to be a liaison between the pastor and the church members. If there is a problem the committee members are here to help facilitate a solution to the problem. We have been blessed by working with Pastor Jerrod, as he is dedicated to helping our church. If anyone has any ideas or concerns, please contact one of the members.

Respectfully submitted  
Grace Becker Wilson

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, BENNINGTON, VERMONT  
CABINET ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

Byron Spafford stated that the pledges for 2008 seem to be about the same as last year.

Greg Lewis was the moderator and chair for the cabinet for the year.

The Cabinet met twice throughout the year as well as the budget meeting on December 21, 2007.

The Christian Ed budget was increased the most in the 2008 budget to promote this area of growth. Youth Camp is one area hoped to be encouraged. Salaries are basically 5%.

The Missions succeeded in paying their estimated amount of money this year, as well as having monies left for the Food & Fuel Fund and the Bennington Coalition.

Fund-raising during May Fest and on Bennington Battle Day were very successful.

Supporting the "Children in Poverty Conference" attended by Lisa Flynn and Darcy Oakes brought new information back for all the congregants.

**Future endeavors:**

On February 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be Board Training Session from 9 to 2.

On February 7 - 8<sup>th</sup> there will be a "*Transforming Conflict: Transforming By Conflict*" workshop at the Baptist Church. All community members are invited to this 2-day workshop, which is supported by the National Ministry. Jerrod recommended 3 to 5 members from the church to attend.

On February 2, 2008, a lay-leadership training event will take place. The focus will be self-governance, having an intentional game plan, accountability, and being focusing more on a good solid church.

In the coming year the congregation should be provided with more information about where the monies actually go, which usually invites more participation with fund-raising events when the purpose is well known.

A "*capital improvements plan*" was suggested to organize future church maintenance and parsonage repairs.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hattie Hustler, Church Clerk

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
2007 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES**

January 1, 2007	Resident Members	192	
	Non-Resident Members	77	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>269</b>
Received:	Baptism	1	
	Benjamin Stevens		
	Letter:	0	
	Christian Experience:	0	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>
Dismissed:	Transfer of Letter	3	
	Edward Allen		
	Susan Buck		
	Evelyn Lauzon		
	Death of Active Members	1	
	Christopher Gaines		
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>
December 31, 2007	Resident Members	192	
	Non-Resident Members	74	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>266</b>

## **BOARD OF DEACONS ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

The board of deacons spent some of this year reviewing the ministry of the deacons. The bylaws describe the role of the deacon to be concerned with tending the spiritual life of the church, helping with worship, and providing care ministry to the congregation. The minister provided opportunities for training about visitation, and the deacon board sponsored a community forum on caring for families with loved ones affected by Alzheimer's disease presented by the Rev. Robin Greene, a local chaplain and Presbyterian minister.

During the year, the deacon board provided hospitality on Easter Sunday and Christmas Eve. We enjoyed using the newly renovated lounge for Christmas Eve, where the fire warmed the time of fellowship after service. The deacon board coordinated Thanksgiving baskets for a number of families within the congregation and in the community. We are grateful for the faithful giving of food and money by the congregation to make this ministry possible.

The deacon board laments the loss of Christopher Gaines, who died in late April. The congregation spent time grieving his loss, and our board participated in a ritual on the Sunday morning following Chris' death, celebrating the many gifts that he used in service to the congregation. We remember with gratitude his gentle and graceful presence in our church's life.

The deacon board for 2007 included Allyn Lindsey, chair, Kerry Shermer, secretary, Lisa Flynn, treasurer, Sandy Williams, Hazel Candib, Chris Gaines, and as of May 2007, Paul Redding. We look forward to four new deacons joining the board in 2008, and we thank Allyn Lindsey for her service as she completes her term.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kerry Shermer, secretary

### **\*A note from the chair of the board:**

The board of deacons is an important part of the church family. We served communion the first Sunday of each month and the service for Maundy Thursday. Helping with Thanksgiving baskets has always been a special project for us. We have tried to visit nine members this year and keep contact with more shut-ins.

Over this past year it has been my pleasure to serve as chairman of the deacons. All the members have been a great help in serving in various capacities and I thank each one of you. As I go off the board this year, I wish each one staying and the new members coming on, all God's blessings in working together for the best of First Baptist.

Allyn Lindsey, 2007 chairperson

## THE FELLOWSHIP FUND Annual Report for 2007

The Fellowship Fund exists to assist persons in need. The minister coordinates disbursement of all funds. (In the absence of the minister, the treasurer of the deacons administers the funds and serves as a co-signatory to the account.) The board of deacons is thankful for the congregation's faithful help in providing discretionary funds. The faithful monthly support of this fund by the congregation has created a multitude of blessings for those in need during 2007. Indeed, most of the monies disbursed helped those within the congregation's membership.

By the terms set in our bylaws, any amount over \$500 on hand may be disbursed to community organizations. This year, the Deacon's Fund provided support for the administrative costs of the Interfaith Food & Fuel Fund and the Bennington AIDS Project. In April 2007, the deacon board elected to cease the direct assistance to individuals not within the membership. In the future, money for assisting individuals who are in need will be routed to the Interfaith Food & Fuel Fund.

As part of the trustees' decision to consolidate all other church funds with the Heritage Family Credit Union, the deacon board voted to transfer their fund as well. Presently, the account is lodged with HFCU's Bennington branch, with the minister and Lisa Flynn, deacons' treasurer, serving as signatories of this fund. A mandatory deposit of \$25 is required to keep the account open and active.

**Beginning Balance** (stated 12/31/2006) \$279.42

### CREDITS

Communion Offerings \$ 2130.22

HFCU Minimum Opening \$ 25.00

Interest income \$ 0.60

### DEBITS

Internal Assistance \$ 1241.14

External Assistance \$ 185.00  
(discontinued direct giving to individuals after mid-April)

Community Support \$ 166.00

Banking Fees \$ 73.50  
(various fees related to the transfer of the Fund between banks)

**Ending Balance** (stated 12/31/2007) \$769.60

Submitted by the Rev. Jerrod H. Hugnot

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

John Harwood was elected Chairperson of the board of trustees, other trustees for 2008 include members Grace Becker-Wilson, Wayne Kachmar, Carolyn Peckham, and Steve Smith.

### **Clerical updates:**

Job descriptions have been written out for Organist/Choir Director and Building Rental Director.

Building Use Policies were written to cover expectations for rental groups, as well as requesting that they have their own liability insurance.

Any company doing work for the church should show a certificate of insurance before work begins

A Personnel Handbook is being updated with policies and guidelines.

In the future any fund-raising event should state their mission before the money is raised.

Cindy Watson was hired as Building Rental Director to schedule events to be held at the church.

Cindy was also hired as a "sweep" to help with office duties and miscellaneous building needs. This lightens the load for the office, Donna Sprague as well as Pastor Jerrod.

### **Building Upgrades Completed in 2007:**

The Della Whittier Lounge was repaired: hardwood floors refurbished, one new couch, two new area rugs, new covers made for two smaller couches, new cabinets installed with small sink, ceiling tiles replaced, and some furniture was cleaned and repaired.

The "clown room" and hallway needed new floor tiles and paint as a result of the broken pipe and water damage as well as the lounge repairs.

The insurance did cover all repairs to the upstairs as well as the Lounge area, and replacing some of the destroyed Christmas decorations.

In Colgate Hall the front windows were replaced with new pine boards surrounding them.

The Handicapped Bathroom was installed in the main hallway.

New floor tiles in the main entryway and the hallway near Colgate Hall have also been installed.

The bathroom near the kitchen was taken out and the wall was enclosed to meet fire codes.

The back stairwell was scraped, painted and stair rails were installed.

The Bennington Youth Center volunteers painted some of the upstairs rooms.

Roofing repairs to the church and parsonage were completed.

Landscaping at the parsonage was done/ lawn re-seeded.

Organ tuning is done twice a year.

Folding Chairs were purchased from the Methodist Church as well as a new office chair. A new secretary's desk has been ordered.

Windows were replaced in the sexton's house.

Many energy efficient bulbs have been installed and the church office lights were changed.

Screens were added to windows in Colgate Hall, the kitchen, and in the two upstairs Christian Education room. Small safety bars were also put across the bottom of the windows in those two rooms

The upstairs bathrooms were repaired.

The chimney for the sanctuary was cleaned and a new chimney cap installed. The sanctuary furnace was recharged and antifreeze replaced with a regulator.

New company will be used for the office copier starting in January, which should cost less than the previous company.

The VT Interfaith Power & Light Audit showed that the building is basically on track (This was a free service to the church.)

### **Finances:**

Endowments invested in the America Funds have shown overall growth and served the church well with financing many updates to our aging building.

Some of the monies stayed in the CMTA for easier access when needed for monthly bills and repairs.

Most accounts have been transferred into Heritage Family Credit Union.

Basic rental fees were adjusted/increased: such as for Colgate Hall, the kitchen, the sanctuary, and separate rooms are rented mostly by the hour.

**Thank You'd:**

The fuel bill has shown savings by using the Colgate Hall for winter services. It remains the most costly monthly bill even with the \$2.40 a gallon cost from Robert Greene's Oil Company.

John Harwood has had helpers with painting and carpentry work.

Many people have helped on church cleaning days - especially with preparing the upstairs rooms for rental space. This has been a tremendous help in getting the building more presentable and ready for use for a variety of events.

Also a special Thanks to people who donated funds for Holidays Banners, flowers, etc.

**Future items being discussed:**

- New carpet and desk for the pastor's office, and new tile for the church office
- Installation of a fire alarm system to meet fire codes
- Improving access to the upstairs rooms
- Getting permits for parking space in front of the Gibe Property
- Choir Robes
- Landscaping on Valentine Street side of the church
  
- New desk for the pastor
- Encourage continued community use of the building.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hattie Hustler, Church Clerk

**MISSION BOARD  
ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

The mission board has worked toward revising our budget. You will see that the board eliminated from our budget a collection for American leprosy mission. You will also see we added two new line items clergy food and fuel fund management and new church planting.

Even with this addition to the mission budget our budget will only increase by \$800.00. Our basic mission budget was up \$927.29 which helped us meet our goals for "America for Christ," World Mission" and "One Great Hour of Sharing" offerings.

I would also like to thank all of you for your support through the year for what you have given to missions through donations or just volunteering to help with projects and programs at church and your continued support in the future. God bless you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Hoag

**ALTAR GUILD  
ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

The Altar Guild, a newly organized committee at First Baptist, has now completed its first year. The Guild was formed because there had been concern shown as to the appearance of the altar.

A committee was formed and has diligently worked at improving and bringing to life a new vision throughout our whole church. Funds for the Guild have been received through memorial contributions given at Christmas and Easter and through a budgeted line item.

We are most appreciative of the efforts as the members of the Guild and for the many hours they have given to make our church have a much warmer and inviting appearance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Peckham

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR/ BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT 2007

### Summary of Major Projects:

The Board of Christian Education took on several major projects during the 2007 calendar year. These projects included:

- The hiring of a new Director of Christian Education, Darcy Oakes
- The successful completion of our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Vacation Bible School
- Supporting a child in summer camp
- Annual Picnic
- The re-introduction of a second Sunday school classroom for school age children, and the selection of a new curriculum for them.
- The beginning of an Adult Sunday School
- 2<sup>nd</sup> annual pumpkin carving event
- Christmas Celebration
- Involvement and representation on Stewardship Committee
- Involvement in Children's Moment
- Re-organization of worship time such that children can worship with their families
- Attendance at Children in Poverty pre-conference training in Washington DC
- Children in Poverty training/study for entire congregation
- "Safe Sanctuaries" training and follow-up including new and updated policies and practices for playroom, nursery and Sunday School classrooms
- Movement and effort toward record-keeping and organizing the "paper trail" of the Board of Christian Education
- The purchase and gifting of Bibles for all school age children in the church

### Affirmation of Progress:

The Board of Christian Education has been greatly involved in the movement toward change and growth taking place at FBC this year. The Board as a whole has taken a broad-minded, forward-thinking perspective when making such decisions as evaluation and choosing among curricula, re-instating an adult Sunday school, investing in new staff and overall living on a "growing edge" and moving toward change.

For the first time in many years a child from FBC was sent to summer camp.

For the first time in many years an adult Sunday school is taking place on Sunday mornings, and entire families are given the opportunity to grow in their Christian faith at the same time.

Vacation Bible School was successful for the second summer in a row. Important lessons have been learned, both by our children and by the board. The VBS for 2008 plans on taking the best of what has been learned, and changing format by taking place over a long weekend rather than a "5-Sunday format".

The new FaithWeaver curriculum is one of promise. The School Age classroom has nothing but positive feedback to offer, and we hope to grow the use of curriculum and others in the future.

### Areas of Growth:

Areas of growth we hope the congregation will achieve this year:

- Recruitment and retention of more children and adult learners into our Sunday School Programs
- An even more successful VBS, aiming at participation of 14-21 children
- The creation of a "binder" or "file", documenting all the work of the Board of Christian Education
- Continued training and implementation of "Safe Sanctuaries" practices
- The purchase of an accessible changing table for the new accessible restroom

- The purchase of first aid kits for all floors of the church
- Continued growth in all 3 Sunday School classrooms
- Ongoing evaluation of Christian Education Curriculum
- Setting the church family “on fire” for the work of Christian Education!

Words of thanks:

Many thanks to the many and varied people that have helped with the work of the Board of Christian Education during the past year, including but not limited to Jean Hoag, our outgoing Chair, all the people that have helped with VBS and other projects, Cindy Watson our treasurer, without whom we would be lost, our Pastor that does much more than “ex-officio” requires, all the members of the congregation that have helped with the efforts of Christian Education, which are too many and too precious and valued to be named...you are priceless.

Respectfully submitted,  
Darcy Oakes

## **MUSIC COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

In the year 2007, the music committee worked principally on the transition of organists. As Michael Daunis accepted a position with the First Baptist Church of North Adams, MA, the committee began work on hiring a new organist. The committee reviewed the job descriptions, and upon discovering the datedness of the documents, the two descriptions for "organist" and "director of music" were blended together and revised to reflect the current needs of the congregation. The revised "director of music" job description was reviewed by the board of trustees and placed on file.

Notices of this position's availability were circulated through local and regional classifieds as well as among various chapters of the American Guild of Organists, the professional society for church organists. Resumes and interviews were quickly forthcoming this time around, and we soon hired the Rev. Stephen JC Williams, a retired Episcopal priest and long-time church musician. Rev. Williams was hired as well by the First Congregational Church of Old Bennington, VT, allowing the historic staff "share" to continue and pooling our financial resources together to provide compensation to an organist.

The Rev. Williams continues the tradition of First Baptist having a great organist. He is presently working with the adult choir as well as a junior choir for elementary age children. His musicianship enriches our worship, and we are glad for his presence on our staff.

The committee members for 2007 included Byron Spafford, Ann Smith, Josie Shepherd, and Cindy Watson. Lisa Flynn also assisted in the interview process. The minister served as an ex-officio member and staff to the search process.

Respectfully submitted,  
Byron Spafford

## **AMERICAN BAPTISTS WOMEN ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY 27, 2008**

ABW Meeting was held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the church. Following devotions about children in poverty, and a Love gift presentation, a skit given by Fran Hunt and Florence Smith, the treasurer's report was given and filed for audit.

Upcoming events and dates: Tag sale—April 13/14<sup>th</sup>, April ABW Meeting April 11<sup>th</sup>, catered luncheon meeting for Retired Teachers May 8<sup>th</sup>—helpers needed, ABW Conference at Singing Hills on June 22&23. A workshop will be given by our national representative, Jan DeWitt on children in poverty. Several showed interest in attending.

When President, Marion spoke of the need for a nominating committee to complete a slate of officers for next year no one volunteered.

The program was about local children growing up in poverty, led by Sharon and Jen from the Family Service/PATH office. There are several reasons that lead to this situation—less than half the expenses needed are paid for through their assistance program, very high Vt. Housing costs, second only to Alaska, long waiting lists for section 8 housing and many restrictions are placed on people who get qualified. It was a very enlightening program.

The April meeting was opened with a presentation by Nancy Jean Steffan, of the Second Congregational Church, who gave us a great deal of information about the Church World Service Kits. We feel the need to be more involved with this program.

Cindy Watson was in charge of the Retired Teachers luncheon; on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The program for the Spring Fling was a presentation by Norma Taajes, our ABW friend from NH. who entertained us as the "Hat Lady". Alldays and Onions catered the meatloaf and Chicken Marsala luncheon. The cost of the meal was \$5.00 to the attendees, with the rest of the cost taken out of the ABW treasury.

A Summer Tea was held on July 12, with Cindy Watson and Mary Harrington in Charge.

Due to the fact of dwindling attendance, and the difficulty in filling offices, it was decided to disband the ABW organization. This decision was reached with deep regret, but was considered necessary. It was felt that many of the special features of ABW, such as White Cross, Love Gift, Spring Fling, the Summer Tea, etc should be kept as church functions, probably with an individual or a committee in charge of each event. This will be a year of searching out new avenues, new functions and most importantly new ideas to continue to be Women of our American Baptist Church. Please keep us in your prayers as we strive to meet new challenges and do our best.

Mary Harrington, (Defunct Secretary)

## **CHURCH BUILDING USE ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

In July it was decided that the church staff was spending too much time trying to keep up with the space usage and the addition of another person to answer questions, take phone calls and show the spaces was a necessity. Cindy Watson took the position.

We have continued to be the home of two AA groups who have put on three alcathons. They have done a good job supervising their events and cleaning up. It has been a pleasure to have them here. Southwestern Vermont Medical Center has, during the last year, held training classes here. It was their goal that every employee complete accountability training. We still have a few more classes to be held here but most of them are finished. PAVE parenting classes are ongoing, Sunrise playgroup continues to use our space and we will host the Library book sale fundraiser for the second year. The Bennington Youth Program still resides in our second floor. This year 18 different groups have taken advantage of our location and pleasant space earning us \$13,825.00. Accessibility to the second floor is still an issue.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Watson

## **GIBNEY PROPERTY REPORT ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

This year has been a learning curve for those of us connected with the rental of this building. In July John Harwood stepped down as apartment manager and Cindy Watson took the position. Our upstairs tenant left owing us \$1100.00. This issue has been addressed with said tenant several times and a promise of payment in Feb.08 when her tax return is here was made. The apartment, when empty was cleaned and painted and then in Sept it was rented to another couple. The rent was paid well until December when they fell in arrears. An eviction notice was handed out to the remaining person on January 9, 2008 and Cindy and Jerrod were told the apartment would be empty by the 10<sup>th</sup>. They owe \$900.00. I was told again that we would receive payment in Feb. from her tax refund. I will stay in touch with this person but she has relocated to N. Carolina.

The downstairs apartment was emptied Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> when the tenant purchased a house in Hoosick Falls. Upon inspection of the apartment it was decided to do some major refurbishment. The ceiling tiles were changed and all the walls were scrubbed and then painted. The windows were cleaned and new blinds purchased for the windows in need. The carpet was cleaned and the kitchen floor was scrubbed. The bathroom was scrubbed and painted. John Harwood helped with the repairs and a community volunteer came in to help do the painting. After many hours of work the apartment is waiting to be rented. We have had a few interested parties look at the downstairs. When the upstairs becomes empty again there will be some work that must be done before I can show it again.

We have from necessity needed to borrow money from the church to keep the apartment bills paid. To date the church has loaned 621 Main Street \$2000.00. It is with regret and hope that I file this report.

Respectfully submitted  
Cindy Watson



Walter McSherry	01/25/84
Florence Mears	01/16/82
Mary Jane Mattison	
Glenn Miller	1994
Herbert Miller	11/29/90
Frank Millington	11/20/93
Florence C. Moore	01/04/77
Ada L. Morgan	10/18/75
Margaret Ogilvie	08/08/79
Leon A. Orr	10/05/75
Ada Ostrander	11/17/79
Robert S. Outwater Sr.	04/19/01
Hilda R. Parker	10/08/84
Etta Percey	12/07/82
Mary McGrossan Percey	08/06/05
Koby James Peterson	03/20/94
Paul Prescott	09/20/77
Joseph Prue	
Edna T. Rice	10/14/84
Ethel Richmond	04/04/83
John P. Riddle, Sr.	08/28/00
Lena L. Rose	07/17/87
Maude K. Scott	03/14/89
Ruth B. Shea	10/27/97
Jeffrey E. Shepard	05/09/89
Althea Spafford	01/03/92
Mary Spicer	05/24/77
Mabel Stewart	08/03/84
Elaine Sumner	08/31/93
Lawrence Sumner	01/16/94
Robert W. Thomas	08/30/94
Arthur W. Tinkham	10/21/74
Anna Towslee	12/09/89
Marian W. Barber Vince	06/04/00
James Vince	12/05
Everett L. Vose	05/28/84
Harriette Walbridge	01/21/76
Jeanne Walbridge	09/03/77
Lucinda Warner	06/24/75
Ralph Watson	09/02/06
Betty Werner	05/22/80
Jessie Harris Wheeler	05/06/79
Alice White	01/28/78

Minnie C. Woods	03/16/85
Kathryn Young	04/24/84

### **SOUND SYSTEM**

James and Mary Coulter  
 Leon and Avis Peckham  
 Lucy Quinby

### **ORGAN FUND**

#### **Hope Colgate Jerome Sloan**

### **TOWER FUND – 2001 – 2002**

The members of the First Baptist Church  
 American Baptist Women  
 Eupha Bonham  
 James Coulter  
 Mary Coulter  
 Elizabeth Escala  
 John Finlayson  
 Paul Greenawalt  
 Harry Harmon  
 Michael Harmon  
 Rose Harmon  
 Eleanor Harwood  
 Harold Hilliard  
 The Jepson Family  
 Anna Kennedy  
 Chester Mallory  
 The Paddock Family  
 Harry Percy  
 Koby Peterson  
 Lucy Quinby  
 John Riddle, Sr.  
 Kimberly Watson Shand  
 Blanche Strohmaier  
 The Summer Family  
 Florence C. Towsley  
 Betty Werner

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
BENNINGTON, VERMONT**

**ANTICIPATED INCOME FOR 2008**

**LOCAL**

Loose Offering	1,800.00	
Envelopes-Pledges/Non Pledges	44,716.00	
Investments: American Funds	75,000.00	
Mabel Harris Fund	2,406.95	
Other	4,250.00	
Use of Building	6,000.00	
Special Offering	1,000.00	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL</b>		<b>135,172.95</b>

**BUILDING FUND** **4,314.00**

**BENEVOLENCE**

Basic Mission - Pledges/Non-Pledges	11,800.00	
One Great Hour of Sharing	750.00	as given
America for Christ Offering	700.00	as given
World Mission Offering	500.00	as given
Retired Ministers/Miss. Offering	250.00	as given
VNH Regional Offering	200.00	as given
<b>TOTAL BENEVOLENCE</b>		<b>14,200.00</b>

**TOTAL ANTICIPATED INCOME FOR 2008** **153,686.95**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b><u>2007</u></b>	<b><u>2006</u></b>
<b>Local</b>		
Loose Offering	1,893.57	1,845.44
Pledges/Non Pledges	44,707.21	44,319.77
Special Offering:	1155.50	739.00
Initial Offerings, New Years, Good Friday, Easter, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving, Harvest Home, Secret Place		
Investments:	108,710.60	79,730.40
America Funds	102,100.00	
Nichols, White, Edgerton Funds	2,531.97	
Mabel Harris Fund	4,078.63	
Miscellaneous:	8,455.06	9,634.01
Donations (Organ repair & Poverty conference)	350.00	
Cookbooks	6.00	
Kitchen door (ABW)	285.00	
Food Pantry	25.00	
Food Baskets	50.00	
Oil Repay	822.53	
Books (Christian Ed)	241.00	
Flowers (Easter & Christmas)	1,164.00	
Christmas Banner	125.00	
Reimbursements	145.39	
Sale of Quilt	200.00	
Battle Day Food	569.65	
Roast Beef Dinner	1,437.00	
Mayfest food stand	231.00	
Easter Brunch	17.25	
UPS Rental	150.00	
Wedding	125.00	
In Memory of Harry & Mary Percy	1,000.00	
From Video Fund (for New camcorder)	1,511.22	
Use of Building	14,325.00	5,818.00
Fitzgerald Estate	72,924.62	
<b><u>TOTAL LOCAL INCOME</u></b>	<b>252,171.54</b>	<b>142,086.62</b>
<b><u>TOTAL BUILDING FUND</u></b>	<b>5,720.00</b>	<b>3,202.00</b>

2006 - 41 pledges 9 giving non-pledges
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2007 - 38 pledges 7 giving non-pledges
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(continued)

<u>Benevolence</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Pledges/ Non Pledges	12,838.00	8,430.00
Love Gift	419.04	484.24
America For Christ Offering	592.47	702.68
World Mission Offering	675.30	501.89
Retired Ministers/Missionaries	333.00	183.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	326.52	743.82
Church World Service	320.00	105.00
Regional Offering		
ABW Ministries:	125.00	125.00
American Bible Society	20.00	
Andover-Newton	25.00	
American Leprosy	25.00	
Bacone College	30.00	
Baptist World Alliance	25.00	
Miscellaneous:		
Fitzgerald Estate	8,000.00	
Bennington Food & Fuel	58.38	
From America Funds	400.00	
Other		
<b><u>TOTAL BENEVOLENCE</u></b>	<b>24,087.71</b>	<b>11,668.53</b>
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME FOR YEAR</u></b>	<b>276,259.25</b>	<b>156,957.15</b>

**Byron Spafford,  
Financial Secretary**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

**TREASURERS REPORT FOR 2007**

**TRUST FUNDS**

	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Lester H. Nichols	Chittenden	\$201.58
JH & HA White	Chittenden	\$176.16
Mary Edgerton	Chittenden	\$217.93

**OTHER INVESTMENTS**

Mabel Harris	HFCU	\$6,817.58
Mabel Harris Trust Account	HFCU	\$6,817.58
Memorial Fund	HFCU	\$11,321.37
Scholarship Fund	HFCU	\$2.30
12 month term Share Cert	HFCU	\$10,935.54
Video Account	HFCU	\$352.37
Bessie McGowen - shoe Fund	HFCU	\$4,299.19
Rent Account	HFCU	\$115.13
Rent Savings Account	HFCU	\$409.78
Insurance Account	HFCU	\$284.56
Shrubbery Fund	CMTA	\$364.50
Fitzgerald Donation	CMTA	\$500.00

**America Funds**

**01/08/2008**

Investment Co #4	\$	229,204.85
Growth Fund #5	\$	46,953.67
Income Fund #6	\$	234,740.42
New Perspective #7	\$	49,683.45
EuroPacific Growth #16	\$	50,138.78
Capital World G&I #33	\$	250,541.04
SmallCap World #35	\$	46,109.61
<b>New World Fund #36</b>	\$	53,856.65
<b>CMTA #9</b>	\$	190,006.87
<b>CMTA- Harris</b>	\$	30,803.17
<b>Subtotal</b>	\$	<b>1,182,038.51</b>
Cap Incm Bldr-LN #12	\$	245,940.60
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$	<b>1,427,979.11</b>

Capital Income Builder is a combination of  
of Nichols, White and Edgerton Funds

Respectfully Submitted  
Cindy Watson

<b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH</b>			
<b>Bennington Vermont</b>	<b>Budget</b>	Amount used	proposed
<b>2007</b>	<b>Accepted 1/28/07</b>	<b>in 07</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>Church Home</b>			
Sexton's: salary	10,342.50	10,747.44	10,859.63
payroll taxes	(2,000.00)	(1,201.94)	(2,060.00)
property tax	1,800.00	1,642.26	1,854.00
fuel,	1,000.00	997.18	1,030.00
phone, basic chg.	300.00	300.00	300.00
maint and repair	1,500.00	1,341.40	<b>500.00</b>
Church: phone,	1,400.00	1,307.14	1,442.00
electricity, CVPS	7,000.00	6,007.97	7,000.00
fuel,	25,000.00	20,428.31	25,750.00
gas, Synergy	150.00	117.37	150.00
church maintenance & repair	5,000.00	15,675.67	<b>5,150.00</b>
parsonage maintenance & repair	500.00	3,223.47	<b>515.00</b>
insurance	10,000.00	10,185.51	10,387.00
water& sewer tax	800.00	631.45	824.00
Supplimental - payroll tax- church portion	2,203.23	1,504.64	2,268.39
payroll taxes- IRS	4,770.75	2,025.32	3,174.39
payroll taxes- Vt. State	344.00	240.00	308.00
Administration - secretary - salary	9,835.20	9,846.20	10,326.96
payroll taxes	(1,304.40)	(774.54)	(729.36)
office help (7.62/hr)	1,542.00	1,425.18	-
payroll taxes	(117.97)	(122.01)	-
rental coordinator		975.91	4,800.00
payroll taxes		(75.04)	(366.60)
Office Support - US bankcorp- copier	3,500.00	3,730.02	2,390.00
Evans / Sofco	1,000.00	1,101.43	1,000.00
Postage	1,000.00	899.68	1,000.00
Office machines	1,000.00	312.41	1,000.00
Web site	408.00	336.60	420.24
Miscellaneous	500.00	47,438.33	<b>515.00</b>
<b>Marketing and Advertising</b>			2,047.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>87,473.31</b>	140,267.36	<b>91,855.65</b>
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>balance</b>	proposed
	<b>Accepted 1/28/07</b>	<b>used</b>	2,008.00
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>			
cash salary	25,780.00	25789.01	30,780.00
parsonage allowance	4,000.00	3833.41	4,000.00
s security allowance	3,498.34	3519.80	3,632.22
m+m pension Fund	7,316.80	6333.56	7,596.80
medical	8,142.72	7177.72	7,518.72
fuel	2,000.00	2302.92	2,500.00
CVPS	900.00	867.19	900.00
(Verizon)communication	600.00	641.03	1,068.00
water& sewer	450.00	330.54	450.00
mileage (reimbursed)	1,800.00	715.07	1,800.00
dues	100.00	60.00	200.00
continuing education	300.00	153.54	300.00
periodicals	100.00	77.65	200.00
convention	850.00	731.39	850.00
public relations(hospitality)	250.00	227.09	350.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>56,087.86</b>	<b>52759.92</b>	62,145.74

<b>FBC Bennington Vermont-07</b>			
<b>2007</b>	<b>Budget</b>	Amount used	proposed
<b>Christian Ed</b>	<b>Accepted 1/28/07</b>	<b>in 07</b>	2,008.00
<b>Staff</b>			
Christian Education Director	900.00	1475.00	5,040.00
payroll taxes	(68.85)	-112.88	(385.56)
Playroom Supervisor	700.00	461.31	700.00
payroll Taxes	(53.55)	(37.50)	(53.55)
reimbursed by Mable Harris Fund		1785.93	5,300.89
<b>CE Progaming</b>			
Church School Supplies	500.00	386.50	1,000.00
Childrens Curriculum			1,000.00
Adult curriculum	500.00	357.95	1,000.00
christian ed / programs and events	500.00	25.00	1,000.00
camps and conferences	500.00	200.00	2,000.00
community VBS	500.00	706.56	1,350.00
training	200.00	138.55	1,000.00
childcare supplies	100.00	0.00	100.00
(Special Events) eliminate	500.00	1405.39	-
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>3,300.00</b>	3219.95	<b>8,450.00</b>
<b>Worship and Service</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>amount used</b>	<b>proposed</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>Accepted 1/28/07</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Director of Music	7,728.00	6376.86	8,114.40
payroll taxes	(591.20)	(1190.11)	(1,838.00)
spcl music- vocal, instrm	350.00	450.00	1,000.00
substitute organist	300.00	1350.00	400.00
musical activities	100.00	0.00	100.00
musical instruments-m+r	600.00	-18533.00	1,200.00
<b>Subtotal Music</b>	<b>8,486.80</b>	24451.02	<b>8,976.40</b>
pulpit supply	400.00	300.00	400.00
(liturgical) becomes Growth in Worship	1,000.00	174.23	1,000.00
Flowers and Greenery	450.00	441.34	450.00
(ministry to shut-ins)Caring Ministries	500.00	604.94	500.00
ministry to the deaf	1,200.00	0.00	600.00
miscellaneous	500.00	2213.98	500.00
transition team	1,000.00	259.40	250.00
<b>subtotal Worship</b>	<b>5,050.00</b>	4462.84	<b>3,700.00</b>
Deacons Services	250.00	213.80	1,000.00
Missions and Stewardship Board	250.00	19.95	1,000.00
fellowship time	750.00	884.55	2,430.00
special events	1,000.00	427.41	1,000.00
<b>subtotal Service</b>	<b>2,250.00</b>	1545.71	<b>5,430.00</b>
<b>Subtotal CE, W&amp;S and Music</b>	<b>15,786.80</b>	<b>35896.94</b>	<b>26,556.40</b>
<b>GRAND SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>162,647.97</b>	<b>229,499.29</b>	<b>180,557.79</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>			
<b>Building Fund Total</b>	<b>5,500.00</b>	<b>34997.92</b>	

<b>FBC Bennington Vermont-07</b>			
<b>2007</b>		<b>Amount used</b>	<b>proposed</b>
<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>in 07</b>	<b>2008.00</b>
	<b>Accepted 1/28/07</b>		
<b>American Baptist Mission Support</b>			
United Mission Basics - goal	8,000.00	10189.29	8,000.00
UM - ABW Love Gift		357.04	
<b>UM Designates</b>			
America for Christ - goal	700.00	700.00	700.00
World Mission Offering - goal	500.00	500.00	500.00
One Great Hr of Sharing - goal	750.00	750.00	750.00
RMMO - goal	200.00	333.00	250.00
V/NH Region - goal	200.00	200.00	200.00
<b>Institutional Support</b>			
Andover Newton -Payne Schlorship	500.00	500.00	500.00
Bacone College	30.00	30.00	50.00
<b>Specifics</b>			
Benn Coal. for Homeless	400.00	400.00	500.00
Clergy Food and Fuel Fund	1,000.00	1458.38	1,000.00
<i>Clergy Food and Fuel Fund management (new)</i>			100.00
Benn Co. Habitat for Humanity	100.00	100.00	100.00
Benn, youth center	100.00	100.00	100.00
blanket fund		320.00	
Heifer Project		0.00	
souper bowl Sun.		0.00	
ABC/VNHCamps and Conferences	850.00	850.00	1,000.00
local childrens support		30.00	
<b>ABWM supported</b>			
American Bible Society	20.00	20.00	50.00
American Leprosy Mission (eliminate)	25.00	25.00	delete
Baptist World Alliance	25.00	<b>25.00</b>	100.00
new church plant in Vt.			300.00
<b>Benevolence</b>	<b>13,400.00</b>	<b>24979.71</b>	<b>14,200.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>181,547.97</b>	<b>289,476.92</b>	<b>194,757.79</b>

## Auditing Committee Report

2007

The books were examined and found to be in order.

Susan Hoag  
Auditing Committee

### Nominating Committee Report 2008

<b>OFFICERS</b>	Term	Incumbent
Moderator	1 year	<b>Gregory Lewis</b>
Church Clerk	1 year	<b>vacant</b>
Treasurer	1 year	<b>Cindy Watson</b>
Asst. Treasurer	1 year	<b>Donna Sprague</b>
Financial Secretary	1 year	<b>Byron Spafford</b>
Historian	1 year	<b>Marion Riddle</b>

<b>BOARD</b>	Term ending 2007	Term ending 2008	Term ending 2009	Term ending 2010
Deacons	Allyn Lindsey	Lisa Flynn Sandy Williams	Kerry Shermer Hazel Candib Paul Redding	<b>Joe Gilleran</b> <b>Grace Becker-Wilson</b> <b>Travis Oakes</b>
Trustees	Grace Becker-Wilson	John Harwood Carolyn Peckham	Wayne Kachmar Steve Smith	<b>Sue Hoag</b>
Christian Education	Jean Hoag	Cathy Shepard Katlyn Etter	<b>Mary Harrington</b> Alyssa Orr	<b>Rhonda Harmon</b>
Mission	Joanne Harwood Susan Hoag Sylvia Bull	Frances Hunt	Judy Carpenter Florence Santo	<b>Allyn Lindsey</b> <b>Jean Hoag</b>

<b>COMMITTEE (multi-term)</b>	Term ending 2007	Term ending 2008	Term ending 2009	Term ending 2010
Tellers	Marion Riddle Josie Shepherd	Ann Smith Leslie Johnson Hazel Candib	Barbara Cota Betty Cross Carolyn Peckham Dawn Bushey	<b>Marion Riddle</b> <b>Josie Shepard</b> <b>Donna Sprague</b> <b>Hattie Hustler</b>

Pastoral Relations			Grace Becker-Wilson Greg Lewis Hazel Candib	
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<b>COMMITTEES (annual appointment)</b>				
Auditing	Sue Hoag			
Ushering	Lisa Flynn Richard Harmon Allyn Lindsey Frances Hunt John Harwood Julie Blake Joe Gilleran Sandy Williams	<b>Travis Oakes</b> <b>Jada Gilleran</b> <b>John Orr</b> <b>Morgan Flynn</b> <b>John Watson</b>		

Music Committee	Byron Spafford	<b><i>Sandy Williams</i></b>		
	Josie Shephard			
	Ann Smith*			
	Cindy Watson			
Nominating				<b><i>Lisa Flynn</i></b>
				<b><i>Allyn Lindsey</i></b>
				<b><i>Sandy Williams</i></b>

***Bold face italics denotes persons to be considered for election.***